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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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State Department review
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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The India-Pakistan Situation
(Report #37 - As of 6:00 A.M. EDT)

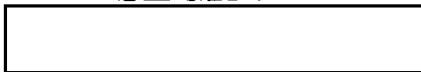
1. Indian military spokesmen claim that the Indian forces driving southwest from Jammu have come within two miles of Sialkot, headquarters of the Pakistani 15th Infantry Division. The city reportedly has been entirely evacuated by its civilian population. Indian sources also report heavy fighting in the Chhamb sector of Kashmir following a Pakistani attempt to dislodge India's forward defense. The engagement in the Chhamb area indicates that the Pakistani forces that attacked toward Akhnur on 1 September have not yet been fully drawn southward to meet the threat to Sialkot. On the Lahore front little progress appears to have been made by either side, despite conflicting claims of success. Large numbers of tanks appear to have been chewed up in the fighting in this area.

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3. Un Secretary General U Thant has proposed that Indian and Pakistani forces cease fire at 6:30 PM local time--9:00 AM EDT--today, according to the Indian press. There is as yet no sign that this proposal will be taken up by either side. The Indian press claims that India is "quite receptive" to the idea of a cease-fire if there are adequate safeguards against new Pakistani infiltration into Kashmir, while Pakistan continues to stand on its demand that a cease-fire must be accompanied by guarantees that the question of the status of Kashmir be reopened.



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5. Foreign Minister Bhutto again publicly reiterated the Pakistani position on a cease-fire. In a private conversation with Ambassador McConaughy, however, he stated that these conditions need not necessarily be attached directly to the cease-fire, and that questions of procedure and arrangements could be worked out secretly. Bhutto remained firm, however, that the Pakistani conditions must be tacitly understood to be part of the cease-fire agreement before Pakistan would accept an end to the fighting.

6. Iranian Premier Hoveida, prior to a trip to Rawalpindi, informed diplomats in Tehran of an Iranian proposal to end the hostilities. This is a five-point plan including an immediate cease-fire, withdrawal of opposing forces to the status quo ante, a UN force to be stationed on the dividing line, prompt negotiations between Pakistan and India for a three-month period, and forced arbitration by some UN-sponsored

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machinery if negotiations have not proved fruitful in that time. This is a variation of the Pakistani cease-fire conditions and has little chance of acceptance in New Delhi. Hoveida stated that Iran is more determined than ever that "Pakistan not be crushed." There does not seem to be much prospect of significant Iranian military aid to Pakistan at this time, however.

7. The Soviet Union issued another appeal for peace between the two countries in an official TASS statement issued yesterday. The statement accused the US of trying to exploit the conflict to divert attention from Vietnam. It also took the Chinese Communists to task by condemning "those whose inciting statements help fan the conflict."

8. A Chinese People's Daily editorial released today, on the other hand, accuses the US of being the moving force behind U Thant's mission to the subcontinent. The editorial hits the UN hard for actions it claims favor the Indians.

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10. Ambassador McConaughy reports that Foreign Minister Bhutto and Defense Minister Nazir Ahmad have stated that the Pakistani Government is prepared to facilitate an early evacuation of Americans from Lahore, Dacca, and Rawalpindi. The evacuation, according to the Pakistanis, can take place on 15 September. The meeting, the ambassador noted, was unusually friendly, but Bhutto wanted to know if similar measures were being taken in India.

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